They help us to see the academic side of the grace of God...how He does not allow us to be beaten by the inequities of life or the difficulties that are mind-boggling and faith disturbing at times. But the reality of this grace is known to us especially as we trust for if we are not willing to commit our lives into His care (we will still have His care!) we may lose an enormous amount of the blessing He supplies. My observations to this end are as follow:

II. Discussion:

A. Assume God will do what He says.

Read a passage like our text many times. Go back and see how it is worked out in the life of Joseph, Daniel, Paul. Look over your own history and thank the Lord. But with this knowledge in mind, take it for granted that God will do what He says.

B. Be prepared to do what He tells you

Read the earlier part of our chapter. Be submissive to His will and stand against the enemy. Pray. Commit, His grace is best experiences as we live not while we sit back and philosophize upon it.

C. Be yielded to the processes in which He works

As in Hebrews 12, be thankful for His discipline. Recognize that the Lord knows far better than we do as to what will best advance us and the testimony. I am not suggesting a weak passivity but a hearty agreement with the Lord's time and program. Avoid complaining and rebellious thinking. Such things as that merely increase the tension and the problems that may occur.

III. Conclusion: Trust allows us to experience the grace of God and to have a great affection for the Providence of God. To trust and obey is more than just a familiar hymn but is a course of living that is rich and rewarding.

(Added Note for this time: the other speaker at this conference was Will Miller, a New Zealander teaching in Washington, DC, and he had messages on Elijah. Will has moved to glory but he and I were great friends and had a fine week...and I hope I have it in the right place as well as the right year but if not.....)